

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5490

S E C R E T BELGRADE 1625

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE, UNDERSECRETARY CHRISTOPHER &
EUR/RPM KORNBLUM

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, OCON
SUBJECT: REPORT ON CURRENT CSCE DEVELOPMENTS

1. I SHOULD LIKE TO REPORT PERSONALLY ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS TO
BRING YOU UP TO DATE. AT THE NATO CAUCUS ON SATURDAY IT WAS AGAIN
UNANIMOUSLY AGREED THAT THE YUGOSLAV PAPER WAS COMPLETELY
UNACCEPTABLE. THE REASONS FOR THIS CONCLUSION WILL BE SENT IN
A SUBSEQUENT CABLE. AT THE SAME MEETING AMBASSADOR MELLBIN,
CHAIRMAN OF THE NINE, AND I WERE AUTHORIZED AS NEGOTIATORS FOR
THE ENTIRE NATO GROUP TO MAKE THIS CLEAR TO AMBASSADOR PESIC, THE
HEAD OF THE YUGOSLAV DELEGATION TO CSCE, IN SPECIFIC TERMS. WE
WERE ALSO AUTHORIZED TO COMMUNICATE WITH AMBASSADOR VERONTSOV,
THE HEAD OF
THE SOVIET DELEGATION, AND TO COMMENCE NEGOTIATIONS WITH HIM ON
A NON-SUBSTANTIVE SHORT DRAFT OF A CONCLUDING DOCUMENT ALONG THE
LINES OF THE SHORT NATO DRAFT PREVIOUSLY CABLED TO YOU A FEW
DAYS AGO.

2. IN SEEKING TO ARRANGE AN APPOINTMENT WITH AMBASSADOR VERONTSOV
WE WERE ADVISED BY HIS SECRETARY THAT HE WAS ILL AND WOULD NOT BE
ABLE TO MEET WITH US UNTIL HIS DOCTOR RELEASED HIM FROM BED
CONFINEMENT.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 BELGRA 01625 271837Z

3. WE DID, HOWEVER, MEET WITH AMBASSADOR PESIC AT MY GUEST HOUSE
ON SUNDAY AND SPOKE WITH HIM FOR APPROXIMATELY TWO HOURS.

4. AMBASSADOR MELLBIN ADVISED AMBASSADOR PESIC OF THE OBJECTION OF
THE NATO GROUP OF THE YUGOSLAV DRAFT IN POLITE BUT UNMISTAKABLE
TERMS. I SUPPORTED AMBASSADOR MELLBIN'S PRESENTATION IN POLITE
BUT EQUALLY SPECIFIC TERMS. THIS REJECTION OF THE YUGOSLAV

PROPOSAL WAS OBVIOUSLY NOT TO PESIC'S LIKING TO SAY THE LEAST.

5. IN SPEAKING ABOUT IT HE MADE REFERENCE TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S LETTER TO MARSHALL TITO IN WHICH PRESIDENT CARTER MADE REFERENCE TO THE CORDIAL AND COOPERATIVE SPIRIT OF THE YUGOSLAV AND AMERICAN DELEGATIONS. I REPLIED TO THIS INTERVENTION BY SAYING THAT IT WAS OUR HOPE THAT THIS COOPERATIVE SPIRIT WOULD CONTINUE AND POINTED OUT THAT THE U.S. AND OUR ALLIES HAD DEMONSTRATED OUR COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE BY ENDORSING IN PRINCIPLE THE NNA PAPER BM-65 AND THAT OF FEBRUARY 1.

6. I ALSO SAID THAT WE DID NOT CONCEIVE THAT THE PRESENT YUGOSLAV DRAFT DEMONSTRATED THE SAME SUBSTANTIVE CHARACTER OF THE NNA PRIOR DRAFTS BUT ON THE CONTRARY WAS OF A SELECTIVE NATURE WHICH DID NOT SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS OF A SUBSTANTIVE AND COMPREHENSIVE CONCLUDING STATEMENT.

7. AMBASSADOR EAGLEBURGER HAS REPORTED ON HIS CONVERSATION WITH VICE PRESIDENT MINIC THIS MORNING AND HAS TRANSMITTED THE TWO PARAGRAPHS WHICH WERE HANDED TO HIM AS ADDITIONS TO THE YUGOSLAV DRAFT.

8. AT THE NATO CAUCUS THIS MORNING I REPORTED THIS DEVELOPMENT AND IT APPEARED THAT NONE OF THE OTHER NATO COUNTRIES HAD BEEN ADVISED OF THESE ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPHS.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 BELGRA 01625 271837Z

9. THEY WERE, HOWEVER, CONSIDERED BY OUR NATO ALLIES AND UNANIMOUSLY REJECTED AS ADDING NOTHING IN SUBSTANCE TO THE YUGOSLAV PROPOSAL.

10. AMBASSADOR FISCHER OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY ASKED THAT THE TABLING OF THE NATO SHORT DRAFT BE DEFERRED UNTIL TOMORROW BECAUSE OF REPRESENTATIONS WHICH IS GOVERNMENT WAS MAKING IN MOSCOW CONCERNING IT.

11. IN DICTATING THIS CABLE I HAVE JUST BEEN INFORMED BY AMBASSADOR MELLBIN AT 6:30 P.M. BELGRADE TIME THAT THE GERMAN REPRESENTATIONS WERE UNAVAILING AND AS A RESULT IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE NATO SHORT DRAFT WILL BE PRESENTED AT TOMORROW'S PLENARY BY AMBASSADOR MELLBIN ON BEHALF OF THE NATO GROUP AS AN INFORMAL PROPOSAL TO WIND UP THE CONFERENCE.
GOLDBERG

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NNN

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